

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, insert the following headings:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

Before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 19, replace the heading as follows:

--~~TECHNOLOGICAL BACKGROUND~~ DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

Before the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 20, replace the heading as follows:

--~~OBJECT OF THE INVENTION~~ SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Before the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 21, replace the heading as follows:

--~~DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF AN EMBODIMENT~~ BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS FIGURES--.

Before the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 5, insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.